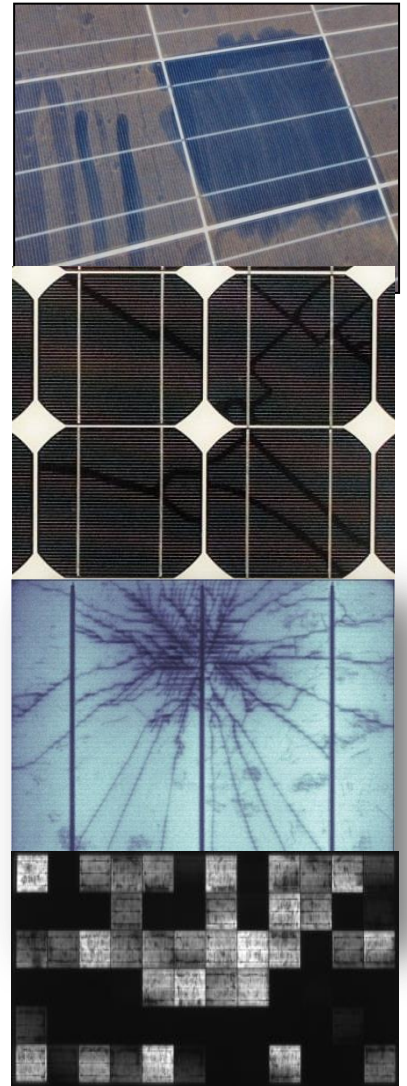


Risk Mitigation, Solar Bankability and O&M Services for PV Power Plants

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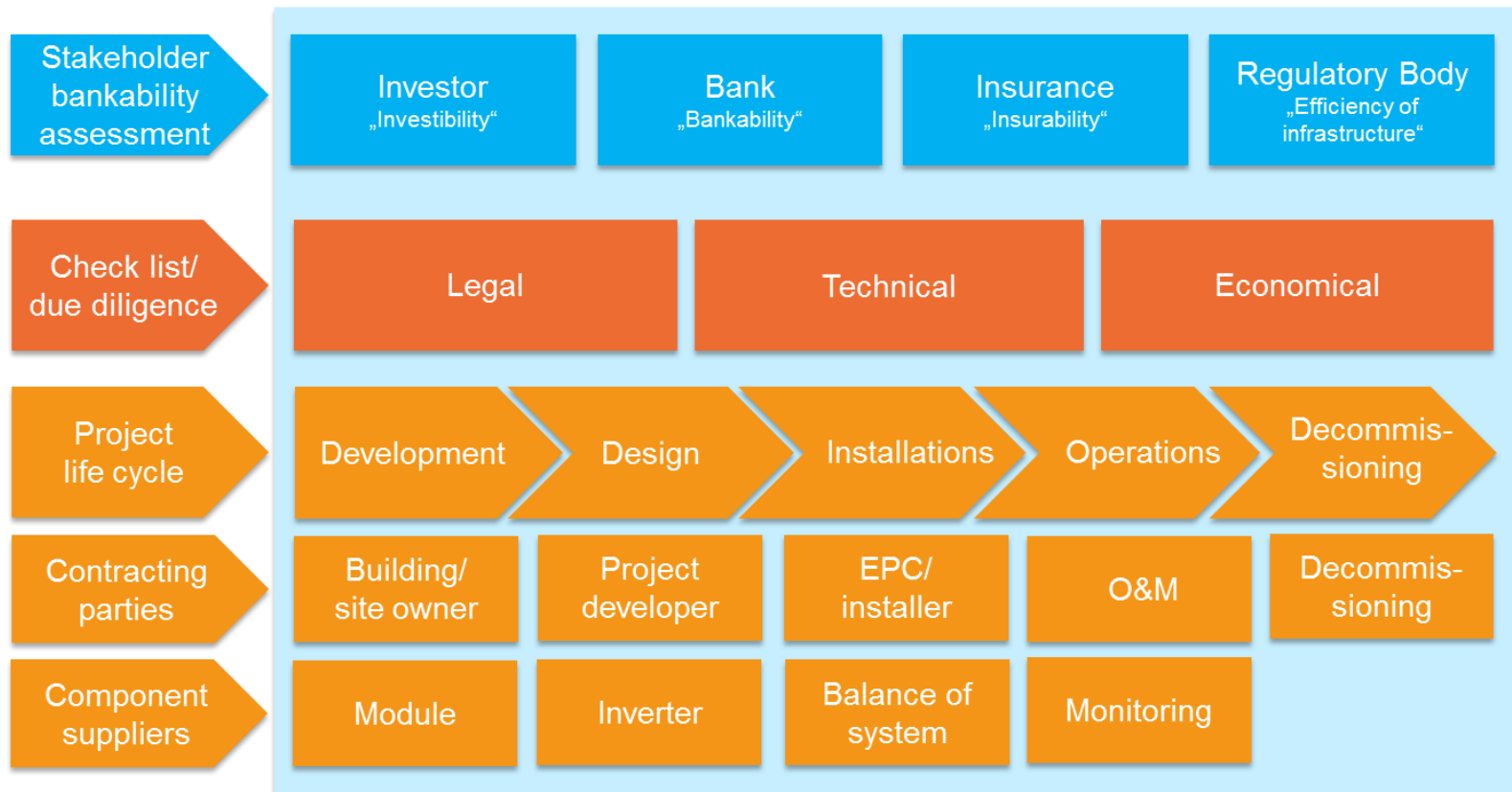
1. Overview
2. Technical risk identification
3. Assessment of technical risks
4. Mitigation of technical risks
5. Case studies of risk assessments
6. Supply chain quality assurance services



1. Overview

- **Solar bankability** is an active quality management process where all stakeholder in the approval process of a PV project attempt to identify potential legal, technical and economical risks through the entire project lifecycle.
- These risks need to quantitatively and qualitatively assesses, managed and controlled.
- Despite a wide overlap in this quality management process, the focus and the assessment criteria will vary whether the stakeholder represents an investor, a bank, an insurance or a regulatory body.

1. Overview



2. Technical Risk Identification



Project Development				Assessment of PV Plants	
Product testing		Planning	Transportation / installation	O&M	Decommissioning
Modules
Inverter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improper Insulation • Incorrect cell soldering • Undersized bypass diode • Junction box adhesion • Delamination • Arcing spots on the module • Visually detectable hot spots • Unclear initial degradation • Uncertified components or production line • Unsuitable/ uncertified Bill of Materials (BOM) • Incorrect power rating (flash test issue) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soiling • Shadow diagram • Modules mismatch • Modules not certified • Flash report not available or incorrect • Special climatic conditions not considered (salt corrosion, ammonia, ...) • Incorrect assumptions of module degradation, light induced degradation unclear • Module quality unclear (lamination, soldering) • Simulation parameters (low irradiance, temperature....) unclear, missing PAN files 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module mishandling (glass breakage) • Module mishandling (cell breakage) • Module mishandling (defective backsheets) • Incorrect connection of modules • Bad wiring without fasteners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hotspot • Glass breakage • Soiling • Shading • Snail tracks • Cell cracks • PID • Failure bypass diode and junction box • Corrosion in the junction box • Theft of modules • Delamination • Module degradation • Slow reaction time for warranty claims, vague or inappropriate definition of procedure for warranty claims • Spare modules no longer available, costly string reconfiguration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undefined product recycling procedure
Mounting str					
Connection boxes					
Cabling					
Potential eq grounding, L					
Weather sta communicat					
Infrastructur influence					
Storage syst					
Miscellaneous					

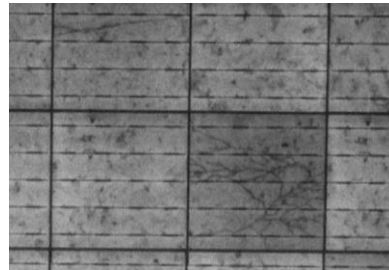
Source: Solar Bankability

2. Technical Risk Identification

Examples for PV module failures



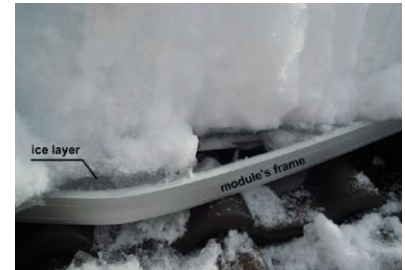
Glass breakage



Cell cracks



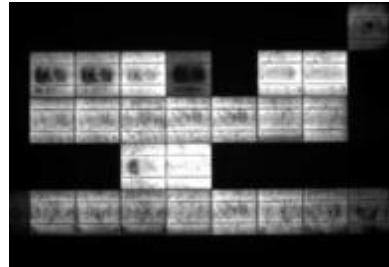
Delamination



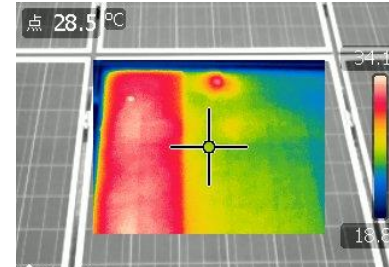
Frame breakage



Junction box failure



Potential induced degradation



Bypass diode failure



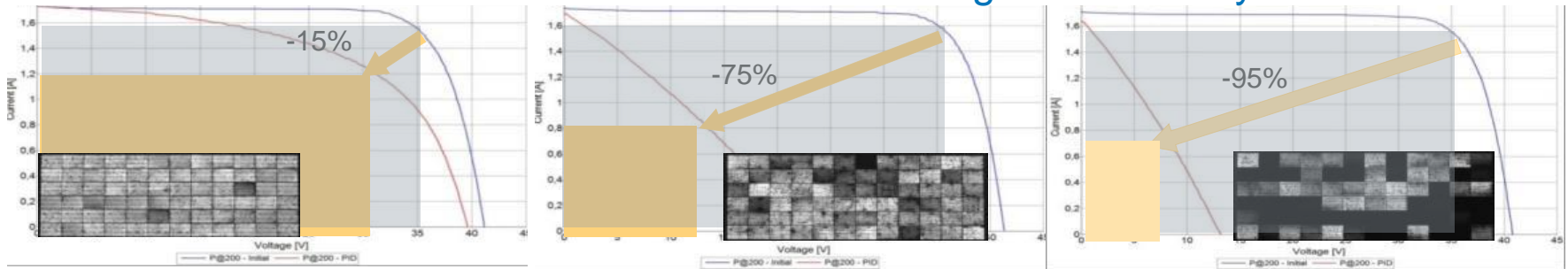
Safety issues

2. Technical Risk Identification

Examples for PV module failures: Potential Induced Degradation

- Performance killer number one: potential induced degradation (PID)
(occurs in cases of high voltage, sensitive module/material combinations and damp environments – e.g. caused by condensation, high humidity)
- Reversible process through grounding or counter-potential (investments required)

Test results of PID tests of PV modules from a large-scale PV system



! Knowledge of PID sensitivity of used PV modules is necessary.
All material combinations of a module type must be considered to declare it PID-free!

3. Assessment of Technical Risks

Cost Priority Number (CPN) Approach



a) Economic impact due to downtime and/or power loss (kWh to Euros)

- Failures might cause downtime or % in power loss
- Time is from failure to repair/substitution and should include: time to detection, response time, repair/substitution time
- Failures at component level might affect other components (e.g. module failure might bring down the whole string)



Income reduction
Savings reduction

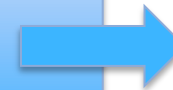
C_{loss}



C_{fix}

b) Economic impact due to repair/substitution costs (Euros)

- Cost of detection (field inspection, indoor measurements, etc)
- Cost of transportation of component
- Cost of labour (linked to downtime)
- Cost of repair/substitution



Increase in
maintenance costs
Reduction of reserves

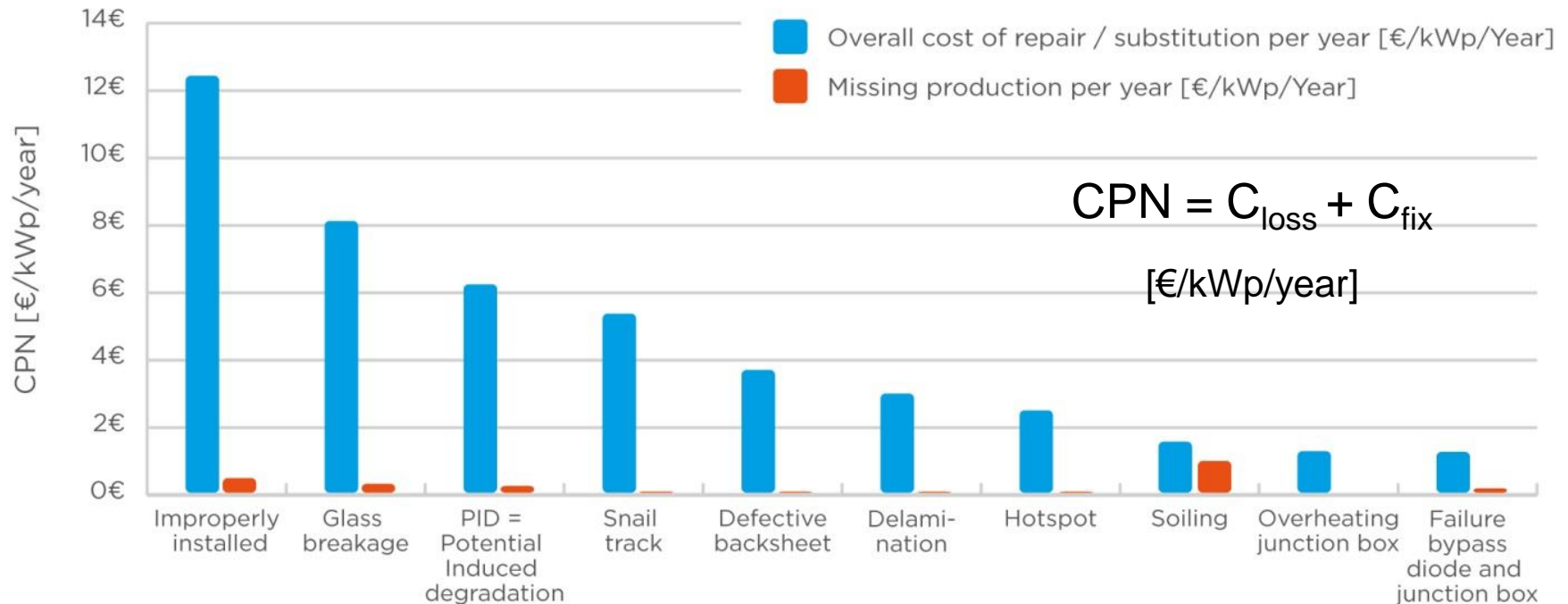
O&M

- **Risks to which we can assign a Cost Priority Number CPN:**
CPN in [€/kWp/year] (e.g. module and inverter failure during O&M)

→ **Impact on cash flow**

3. Assessment of Technical Risks

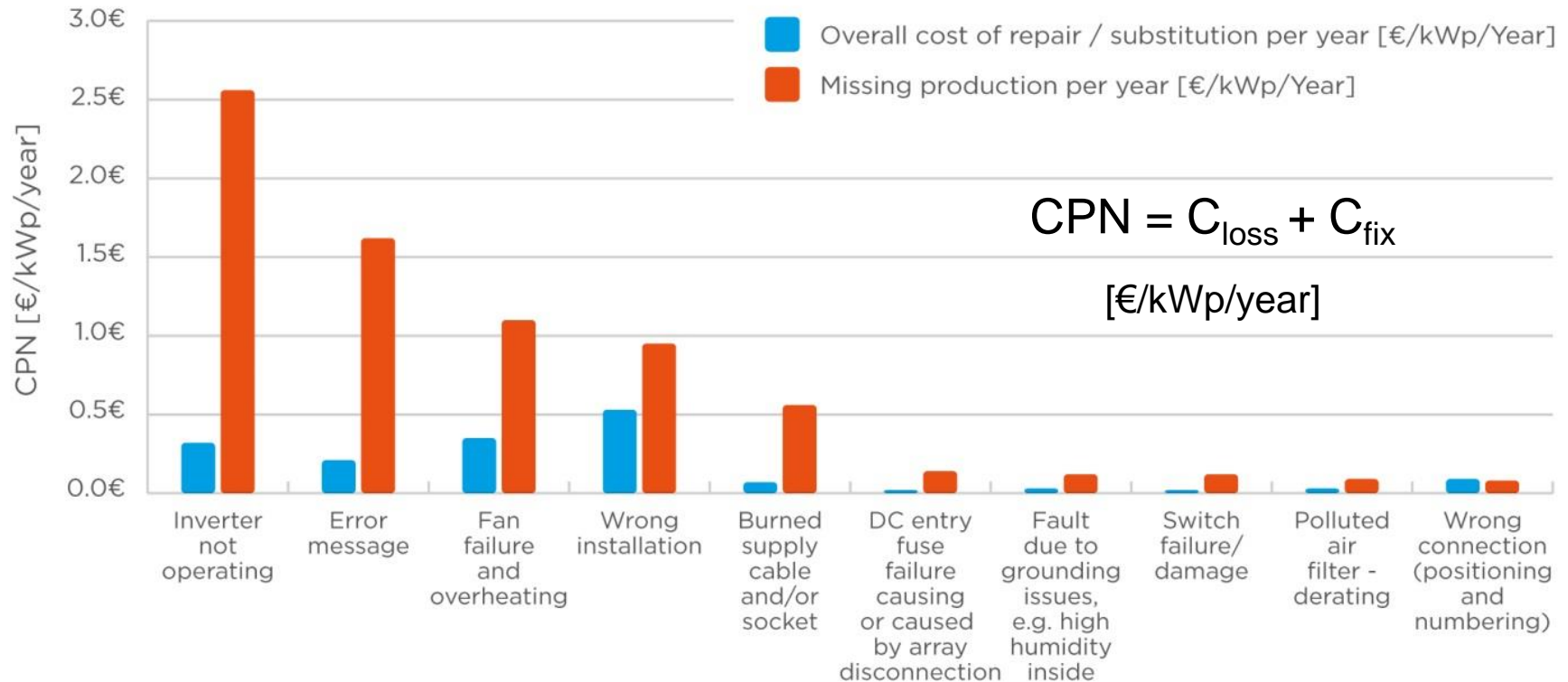
CPN Approach – PV Modules



- Highest risk consists of a group of installation failures (mishandling, connection failures, missing fixation, etc.)
- Variety of failures detected by different techniques (VI, IR, EL, IV-Curves)

3. Assessment of Technical Risks

CPN Approach – Inverter



- Highest risk for accumulation of installation faults and overheating of ventilation.

4. Mitigation of Technical Risks

Mitigation Measures (MM)



Mitigation Measure	Affected Parameter	Risk Mitigation Factor
Component testing – PV modules	number of failures	α
Design review + construction monitoring	number of failures	α
Qualification of EPC	number of failures	α
Advanced monitoring system	time to detection	β
Basic monitoring system	time to detection	β
Advanced inspection	time to detection	β
Visual inspection	time to detection	β
Spare part management	time to repair/substitution	γ

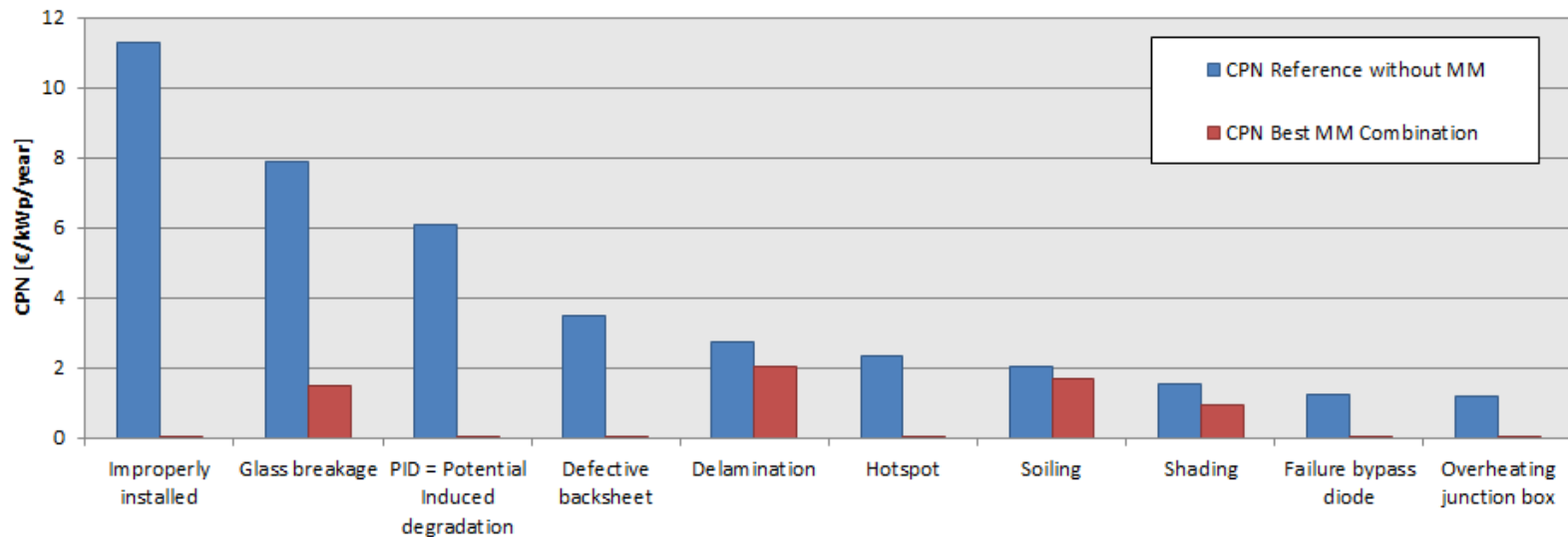
4. Mitigation of Technical Risks

CPN Results – Best combination of MM



Component testing	Design review + construction monitoring	Qualification of EPC	Advanced monitoring system	Basic Monitoring system	Advanced Inspection	Visual Inspection	Spare part management
1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0

Modules - top 10 risks



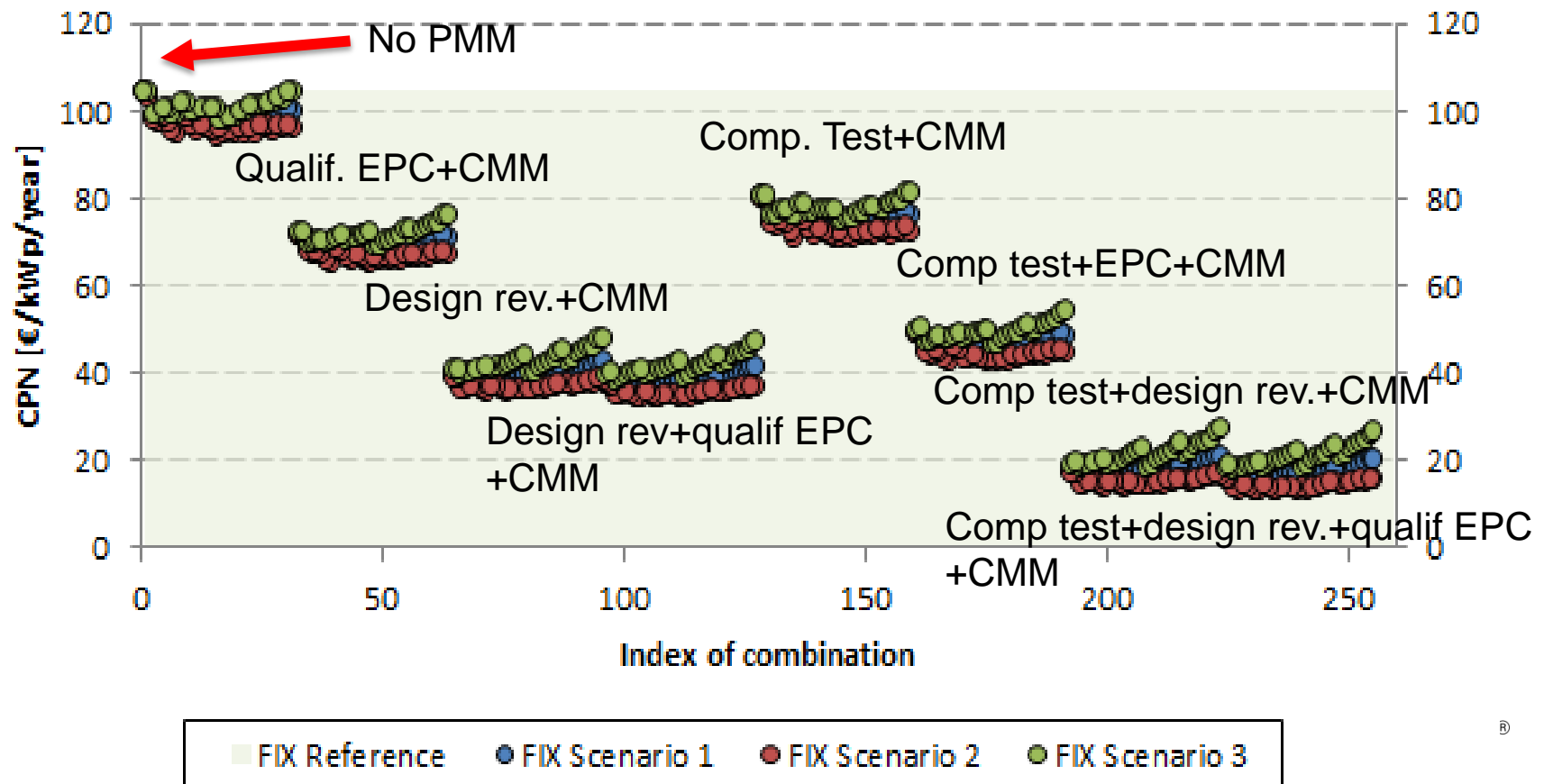
➤ Impact of Applied Mitigation Measures on and Ranking of CPN

4. Mitigation of Technical Risks

Impact of Applied Mitigation Measures

New CPN results $C_{fix,mit}$ of mitigation measure combinations for different cost scenarios:
Preventive measures (PMM) have higher impact than corrective measures (CMM).

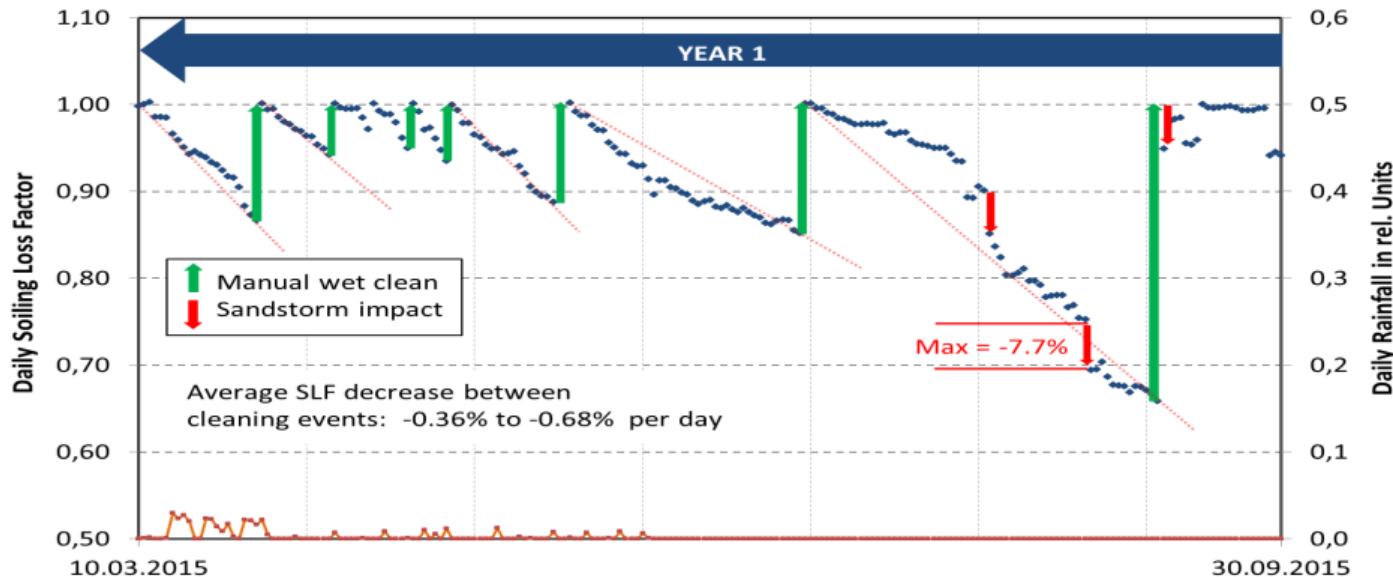
FIX Scenarios



5. Case Studies of Risk Assessments

Field Testing and Soiling Simulation

Example: Soiling @ Thuwal/Saudi-Arabia



- Yield losses > 5 % within 1 week are possible

!

- Site specific cleaning concept is required

- High ambient dust concentration \Rightarrow Average daily percent decrease of - 0.5 %
- Dust storm \Rightarrow Max. soiling loss factor (SLF) \rightarrow change per day = - 7.7 %

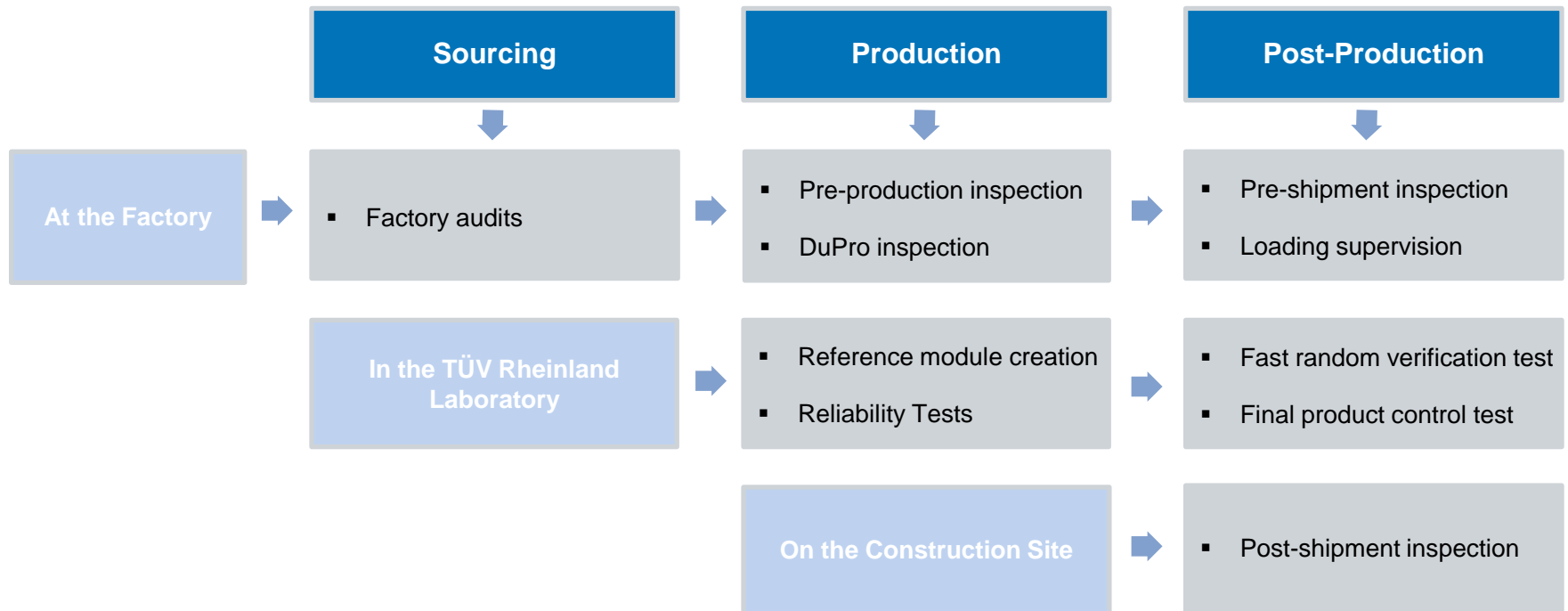
5. Risk Assessment - Wrap Up



1. Large utility-scale PV projects under government tender schemes face severe price pressure. A **quality management programme** should ensure the technical reliability and financial viability of the PV projects.
2. A professional **risk management strategy** as suggested in this project should become integral part of each PV investment.
3. The risk management function should be hierarchically independent and can be provided by qualified in-house or **external third party experts.**

6. Supply Chain Quality Assurance Services

Along each procurement step

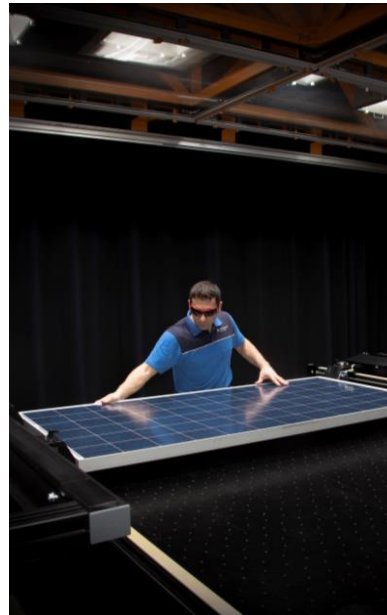


6. Supply Chain Quality Assurance Services

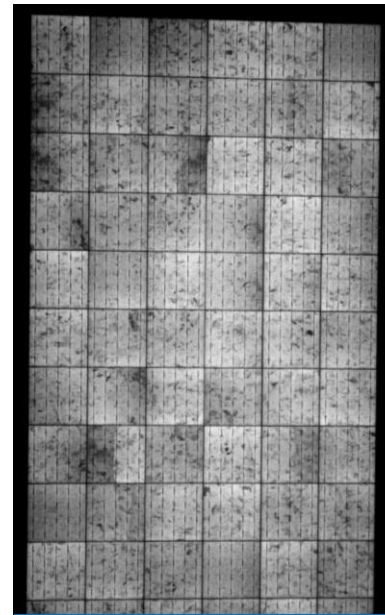
Fast random verification tests at third party laboratory



Visual Inspection



Power Measurement



Electroluminescence



Safety tests

@ TÜV Rheinland Laboratory

6. Our Service at all Stages of PV Power Plant Investment

During Planning



Site feasibility

Tender development

Product qualification

Vendor qualification/ bankability services

Technical DD

Specific yield prediction

Risk assessment

Financial sensitivity analysis

Development, Planning

Commissioning

Operation and Maintenance

Our Service at all Stages of PV Power Plant Investment

During construction

Pre-shipment testing and inspections

Factory acceptance testing

Construction monitoring & supervision

Cost review

Punch list

Mechanical completion inspection

Performance acceptance testing & verification

Provisional and final acceptance report

O&M concept, contract & manual review



Design

Commissioning

Operation and Maintenance

6. Our Service at all Stages of PV Power Plant Investment

After construction



Performance Ratio (PR) verification & Independent energy analysis

Periodic inspection

First year capacity test

Warranty inspections

Technical Due Dilligence

Module status (quality) analysis

Performance optimization

Monitoring, data analysis & sensor calibration

Arbitration services

Design

Commissioning

Operation and Maintenance

6. PV Power Plant O&M Contractor Certification

Application



Submission

- Application Form
- ISO 9001 Certificate
- List of O&M service
- List of PVPP under service
- Business license (initial application)

Step 1

Application

Step 2

Creation of audit plan and quotation

Step 3

- Documentation review
- Onsite O&M audit

Step 4

Evaluation of the audit results

Step 5

Re-audit / Review after correction

Step 6

Reporting and certificate application

Step 7

Certification

Step 8

Annual audit

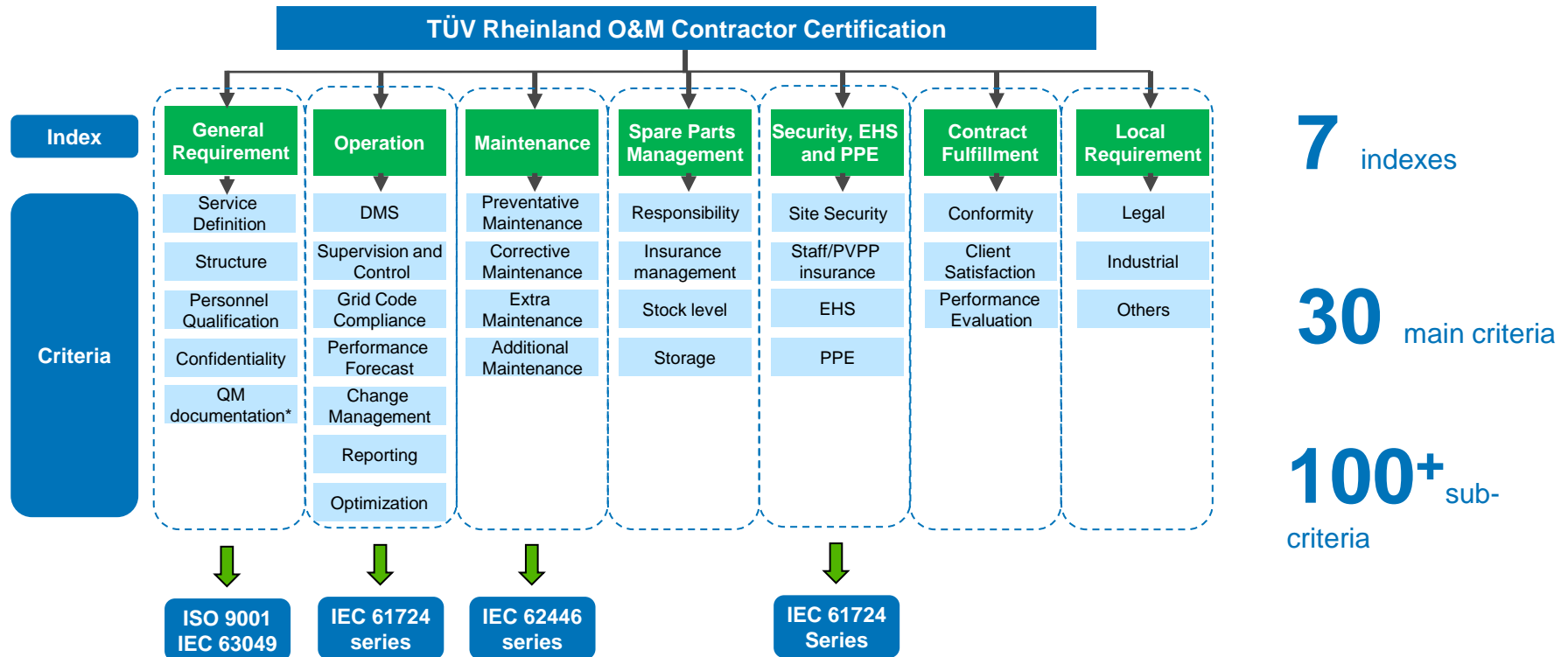
6 month lead time

at least **2** PVPP units

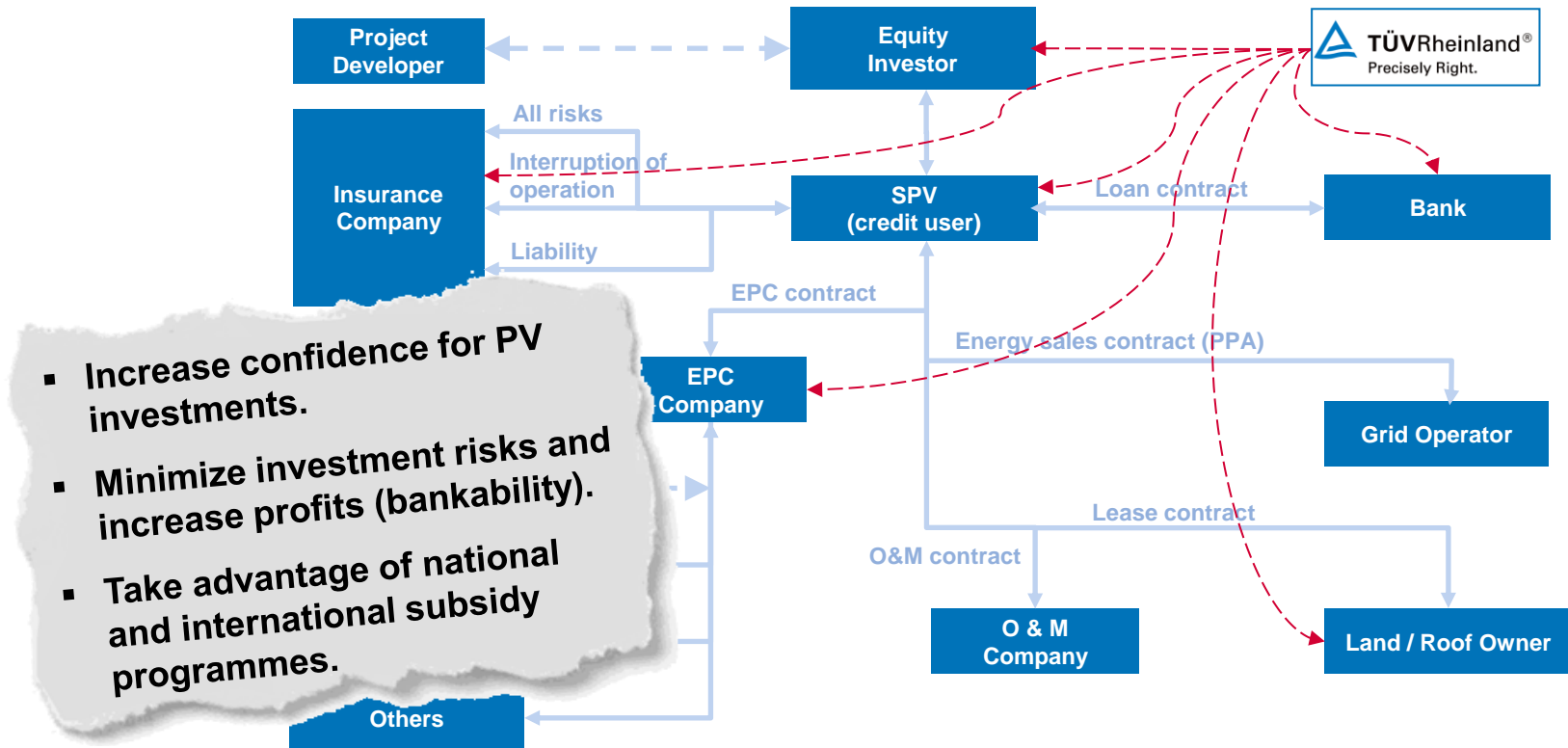
2 months correction period

3 years of validity

6. PV Power Plant O&M Contractor Certification



6. Supply Chain Services for all Stakeholders of PV Plant Investments



PV Power Plant and Supply Chain Services.

Your investment. Our commitment.

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